

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6313

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: AS, UN, IS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN STATEMENT ON ISRAEL AND THE UNITED NATIONS.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DFA NEWS RELEASE OF 31 JULY ON ISRAEL AND THE UNITED NATIONS.
2. QTE. THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SENATOR WILLESEE, SAID TODAY THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NOTED WITH CONCERN VARIOUS REPORTS THAT AT THE COMING UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MOVES MIGHT BE CONTEMPLATED TO EXPEL OR SUSPEND ISRAEL FROM MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS.
3. QTE. SENATOR WILLESEE SAID IT WAS THE LONG-STANDING POSITION OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT ISRAEL'S CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE STONGLY OPPOSED TO ISRAEL'S EXPULSION. FURTHER, AUSTRALIA WAS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ANY MOVES DESIGNED TO EXCLUDE ISRAEL FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES.
4. QTE. INNER QTE. AUSTRALIA IS CONCERNED THAT SUCH MOVES COULD HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ABILITY

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OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE PEACE-

KEEPING ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE BELIEVE THAT THEY
COULD ALSO HAVE UNFORTUNATE REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE
FUTURE OF THE ORGANISATION AS A WHOLE, END INNER QTE
SENATOR WILLESEE SAID.

5. QTE AT THE SAME TIME, THE MINISTER ADDED, AUSTRALIA
WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE URGENT NEED FOR PROGRESS TO-
WARDS A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT, IN CONFORMITY WITH
THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL.
HE HOPED THAT THE CURRENT MOVES TOWARDS A FURTHER IN-
TERIM AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON WITHDRAWAL
OF FORCES WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL AND LEAD TOWARDS SUCH A
SETTLEMENT. END QTE.
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